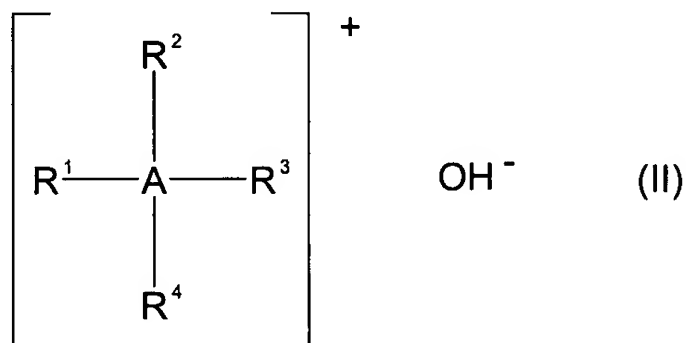


AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph at page 6, line 24 to page 7, line 12 with the following paragraph:

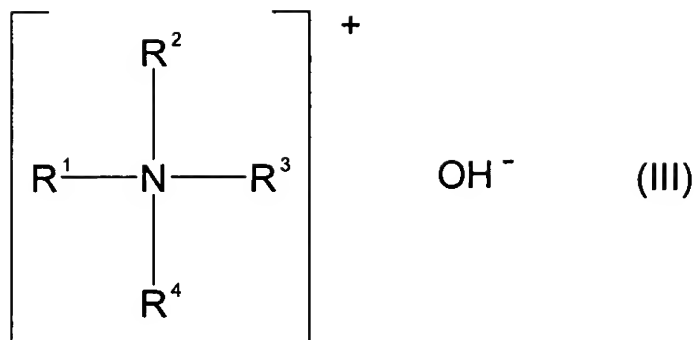
The quaternary ammonium hydroxides and quaternary phosphonium hydroxides may be characterized by the formula



wherein A is a nitrogen or phosphorus atom, R¹, R², R³ and R⁴ are each independently alkyl groups containing from 1 to about 20 carbon atoms, hydroxy alkyl or alkoxy alkyl groups containing from 2 to about 20 carbon atoms, aryl groups, or hydroxy aryl groups, or R¹ and R² together with A may form a heterocyclic group provided that if the heterocyclic group contains a C=A group, R³ is the second bond.

Please replace the paragraph at page 7, line 25 to page 8, line 17 with the following paragraph:

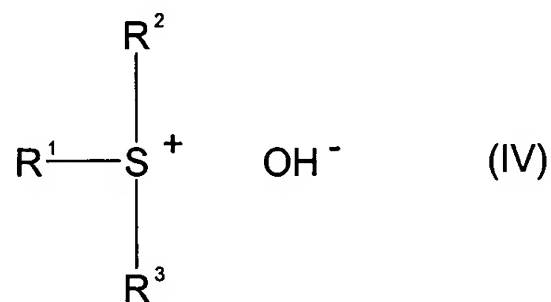
The quaternary ammonium hydroxides which can be recycled or purified in accordance with the process of the present invention may be represented by Formula III



wherein R¹, R², R³ and R⁴ are as defined in Formula II. In one preferred embodiment, R¹-R⁴ are alkyl groups containing from 1 to about 4 carbon atoms and hydroxyalkyl groups containing 2 or 3 carbon atoms. Most often the quaternary ammonium hydroxides purified in accordance with the process of the invention will be tetramethylammonium hydroxide (TMAH) or tetraethylammonium hydroxide (TEAH). Specific examples of such ammonium hydroxides include tetramethylammonium hydroxide, tetraethylammonium hydroxide, tetrapropylammonium hydroxide, tetrabutylammonium hydroxide, tetra-n-octylammonium hydroxide, methyltriethylammonium hydroxide, diethyldimethylammonium hydroxide, methyltripropylammonium hydroxide, methyltributylammonium hydroxide, cetyltrimethylammonium hydroxide, trimethylhydroxyethylammonium hydroxide, trimethylmethoxyethylammonium hydroxide, dimethyldihydroxyethylammonium hydroxide, methyltrihydroxyethylammonium hydroxide, phenyltrimethylammonium hydroxide, phenyltriethylammonium hydroxide, benzyltrimethylammonium hydroxide, benzyltriethylammonium hydroxide, dimethylpyrrolidinium hydroxide, dimethylpiperidinium hydroxide, diisopropylimidazolinium hydroxide, N-alkylpyridinium hydroxide, etc.

Please replace the paragraph at page 8, line 26 to page 9, line 11 with the following paragraph:

In another embodiment, the tertiary sulfonium hydroxides which can be recycled or purified in accordance with this invention may be represented by the formula



wherein R¹, R² and R³ are each independently alkyl groups containing from 1 to about 20 carbon atoms, hydroxy alkyl or alkoxy alkyl groups containing from 2 to about 20 carbon atoms, aryl groups, or hydroxy aryl groups, or R¹ and R² together with S may form a heterocyclic group provided that if the heterocyclic group contains a C=S group, R³ is the second bond.